

DRAFT Data Assessment Team (DAT) Conference Call Notes
3/16/2017 at 11:00 a.m.

Participants: Marcia.Scavone-Tansey, Bryant Georgi, Jessie Cheng and Farida Islam (DWR), Geir Aasen(DFW), RG Fernando, Owen Liu and Ellison Febbo (MWD), Lucinda Shih(CCWD), Barb Byrne(NMFS), Sheila Greene (Westlands Water), Jon Speegle(FWS)

Sacramento River Fish Monitoring

| Preliminary Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Report | | | | |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Species* | FWS Red Bluff Diversion Dam RST (Estimated Passage) | Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) RST (Catch) | DFW Tisdale Weir RST (Catch)** | DFW Knights Landing RST (Catch) |
| Date | 2/26/17-3/11/17 | No new data/update since last call | 3/8-3/12/17 | 3/8-3/14/17 |
| CHNF | 612,918 | | 47 | 5 |
| CHNLF | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| CHNW | 6,293 | | 1 | 0 |
| CHNS | 6,477 | | 17 | 0 |
| Ad-Clipped CHN | | | 5 | 0 |
| SH | 1,383 | | 0 | 0 |
| Ad-Clipped SH | | | 18 | 0 |
| GST | | | Not Reported | Not Reported |
| *Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead, GST= Green Sturgeon. Species are unmarked unless noted as adipose-fin clipped (ad-clipped). Data subject to revision. | | | | |
| ** Numbers represent observations and are not expanded to represent estimated passage. | | | | |

GCID: No Update since last reporting time.

Graphical summaries of the monitoring data collected at the Sacramento River and at other locations can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm>. In addition, the biweekly passage reports of juvenile salmonids sampled at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam are available at http://www.fws.gov/redbluff/rbdd_biweekly.aspx.

Delta Fish Monitoring update provided by Jon Speegle (FWS):

| Preliminary FWS Trawl and Seine Catch Report from 3/5/17 to 3/11/17 | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Species* | Beach Seines | Mossdale Trawl | Sacramento Trawl | Chippis Island Trawl |
| CHNF | 92 | NO SAMPLING OCCURED | 91 | 1 |
| CHNLF | | | | |
| CHNW | | | 2 | 7 |
| CHNS | 3 | | 14 | 1 |
| Ad-Clipped CHN | | | 1 | 1 |
| SH | | | | |
| Ad-Clipped SH | | | 6 | 14 |
| DSM | | | | 10 |
| LFS | | | | 7 |
| SPLT | 1 | | | 16 |
| *Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead, DSM=Delta Smelt, LFS=Longfin Smelt, SPLT = Splittail. Species are unmarked unless noted as adipose-fin clipped (ad-clipped). Data subject to revision. | | | | |

Information about the Delta fish monitoring data from FWS can be found at <http://www.fws.gov/stockton>

Salvage Monitoring update

Geir Aasen reported the following for 3/6/2017 to 3/12/2017:

CHINOOK SALMON

Fall run sized Chinook Salmon (NON adipose clipped) were salvaged at the state facility (weekly salvage= 8), but not at the federal facility for the period of reporting.

Spring run sized Chinook Salmon (NON adipose clipped) were salvaged at the state facility (weekly salvage= 8), but not at the federal facility for the period of reporting.

The seasonal (10/1/2016 to present) salvage totals of all Chinook Salmon at the federal facility are 593 adipose clipped (loss= 411) and 4,411 NON adipose clipped (loss= 2,568).

The seasonal (10/1/2016 to present) salvage totals of all Chinook Salmon at the state facility are 485 adipose clipped (loss= 2,116) and 4,198.4 NON adipose clipped (loss= 16,944).

STEELHEAD

No Steelhead were salvaged at either facility for the period of reporting.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage totals of Steelhead at the state facility are 27 adipose clipped and 16 NON adipose clipped.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage totals of Steelhead at the federal facility are 2 adipose clipped and 12 NON adipose clipped.

LONGFIN SMELT

No Longfin Smelt were salvaged at either facility for the period of reporting.

No Longfin Smelt have been salvaged at either facility for the 2016-2017 water year.

No Longfin Smelt less than 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples at the federal facility from 3/6/2017 through 3/12/2017.

No Longfin Smelt less than 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples at the state facility from 1500 hours on 2/28/2017 through 0900 hours on 3/9/2017.

DELTA SMELT

Delta Smelt were salvaged at the federal (weekly salvage= 8) and state (weekly salvage= 4) facilities for the period of reporting.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage total of Delta Smelt at the federal facility is 16.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage total of Delta Smelt at the state facility is 24.5.

No Delta Smelt less than 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples at the federal facility from 3/6/2017 through 3/12/2017.

No Delta Smelt less than 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples at the state facility from 1500 hours on 2/28/2017 through 0900 hours on 3/9/2017.

SPLITTAIL

Splittail were salvaged at the state facility (weekly salvage= 4), but not at the federal facility for the period of reporting.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage total of Splittail at the state facility is 2,628.9.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage total of Splittail at the federal facility is 20.

WHITE STURGEON

No White Sturgeon were salvaged at either facility for the period of reporting.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage total of White Sturgeon at the federal facility is 4.

The seasonal (10/01/2016 to present) salvage total of White Sturgeon at the state facility is 9.

No Green Sturgeon have been salvaged at either facility for the 2016-2017 water year.

Smelt Monitoring

Smelt Working Group

Leigh Bartoo(FWS) was not able to join the call but sent the following update via DAT reflector:

Below is the summary from SWG meeting that was held on March 14. Additionally, the group had a fair amount of discussion regarding the recent (within the last week or so) of salvage and catch of DS throughout the system; however, no recommendation was made as current OMR levels are more protective than indicated in the RPA's of the Biological Opinion. I expect the meeting notes to be posted online by the end of the week, if not tomorrow. If there are any questions, I might be able to handle them via email tomorrow, otherwise, I will respond on Friday.

SWG 3/14/17 Meeting Summary

The Working Group reviewed current Delta conditions, survey data, salvage, and forecasted weather. As this was not a regularly scheduled meeting and the call took place shortly after a request for meeting, no hydrology data was distributed prior to the call.

The Working Group is following guidance for entrainment protections from Action 2 (adult Delta Smelt) and Action 3 (juveniles). The current trend in salvage suggests the IT level will be exceeded before the end of the adult salvage season. The Working Group will continue to monitor Delta Smelt survey and salvage data and Delta conditions, and will meet again once OMR flow has become negative, or sooner, if requested.

Working Group meeting notes can be found at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/cvp-swp/SmeltWorkingGroup.htm>

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Working Group Update provided by Barb Byrne via the DAT reflector (NMFS):

Highlights from 3/14/17 DOSS meeting:

DOSS Advice:

- None

RPA Implementation

- **Action IV.1.2 (DCC operations):**

- The DCC was closed on the morning of 12/1/16.
- From February 1 to May 20, the gates will remain closed

- **Action IV.2.3 (OMR Management)**

- Implementation of this action in WY 2017 began 1/1/17, and requires that Old and Middle River (OMR) flow be no more negative than -5,000 cfs.
- Since the action went into effect on 1/1/17, no salvage-based triggers that would require more positive OMR levels have been exceeded.

Tracking of acoustic-tagged hatchery winter-run Chinook

- 569 acoustic-tagged (AT) winter-run (WR) were released into the Sacramento River at Caldwell Park in Redding on 2/2/17 along with the production release of hatchery winter-run Chinook (~141,388 fish) from Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery (LSNFH)
- Real-time receivers are in place at Colusa and at the Tower Bridge and I-80/50 bridge in Sacramento; the Tower Bridge receivers stopped functioning on 2/27.
- From 3/6/17 through 3/12/17, 84 AT WR were detected at Colusa (for a seasonal total of 108) and 17 at the I80/50 bridge receivers (for a seasonal total of 19).
- The very high flows and high turbidity are likely limiting detection ability of receivers compared to previous years; also some AT fish may have spilled into the Yolo Bypass and not passed the Sacramento receivers.

Fish Monitoring: Salvage

- Unclipped juvenile salmon (8 fall-run-sized Chinook, 8 spring-run-sized Chinook, no winter-run sized) were salvaged over the past week; no wild or clipped steelhead were salvaged.
- No ad-clipped Chinook salmon were observed in salvage last week
- Total salvage of salmonids has dropped again compared to the past week (16 Chinook compared to 103 the week before; 0 steelhead salvaged both last week and the week before)

Fish Monitoring: RSTs, trawls, seines:

- Catch of wild Chinook in monitoring over past week showed increased catch of most runs of Chinook compared to the previous week.

DOSS estimates of current fish distribution:

| Location | Yet to Enter Delta (Upstream of Knights Landing) | In the Delta | Exited the Delta (Past Chipps Island) |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|
| <i>Wild young-of-year (YOY) winter-run Chinook salmon</i> | 0%-2% (Last week: 0%-2%) | 30%-50% (Last week: 40%-60%) | 50%-70% (Last week: 40%-60%) |
| <i>Wild young-of-year (YOY) spring-run Chinook salmon</i> | 5%-15% (Last week: 5%-15%) | 40%-60% (Last week: 35%-60%) | 35%-50% (Last week: 35%-45%) |
| <i>Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon (released 2/2/17)</i> | 15%-35% (Last week: 25%-45%) | 30%-65% (Last week: 30%-65%) | 15%-45% (Last week: 5%-35%) |

DOSS estimates of Entrainment Risk (no changes in overall risk since last week):

- **Interior Delta Entrainment Risk for listed salmonids in the Sacramento River over the next week:**
 - Overall Entrainment Risk: MEDIUM
- **CVP/SWP Facilities Entrainment Risk for listed salmonids in the Interior Delta over the next week:**
- **DOSS notes that these risk assessments at negative OMR levels aren't relevant to the current OMR levels of ~12,000 cfs, which are projected to stay >9,000 cfs through the weekend.**
 - Overall Entrainment Risk:
 - OMR -2,500 cfs: LOW
 - OMR -3,500 cfs: LOW-MEDIUM (given current hydrology and high Vernalis flow)
 - OMR -5,000 cfs: MEDIUM-HIGH (given current hydrology and high Vernalis flow)
 - OMR -6,250 cfs (*assessment of this OMR level requested by management*): incrementally higher within MEDIUM-HIGH (given current hydrology and high Vernalis flow)

WY 2017 DOSS notes: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/central_valley/water_operations/ocapwy2017.html

All things DOSS: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/central_valley/water_operations/doss.html

Operations update provided by Jesse Chang(DWR):

| Preliminary Summary for 3/16/2017 | | | |
|---|---------|---|--------|
| SWP | | CVP | |
| Clifton Court Inflow (cfs) | 0 | Jones Pumping Plant (cfs) | 2,850 |
| SWP San Luis Reservoir Share (TAF) as of Midnight | 1062 | CVP San Luis Reservoir Share (TAF) as of Midnight | 965 |
| San Luis Reservoir Total (TAF) as of Midnight | 2,027 | American – Nimbus Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 5,000 |
| Feather – Oroville Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 2,986 | Sacramento – Keswick Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 8,600 |
| | | Stanislaus-Goodwin Reservoir Releases (cfs) | 200 |
| DELTA OPERATIONS | | | |
| Outflow (cfs) | ~93,100 | Delta Cross Channel (DCC) Gates | Closed |
| Total Delta Inflow (cfs) | ~97,259 | 1 day OMR average (cfs) | |
| X2 (km) | <56 | 5 day OMR average (cfs) | |
| Export/Inflow (%) 14 day- avg | 3.2% | 14 day OMR average (cfs) | |

Controlling factor(s): Limited real-time demand

<http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/docs/delta/deltaops.pdf>.

Next Conference Call:

NO DAT conference call next week as CALFED OPS will meet on March 22, 2017 at 1 pm. Details on the meeting will be sent to the DAT reflector.

Final DAT notes can be viewed at

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